Installation of incinerators in hospitals

2136. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding installation of incinerators for bio-chemical waste disposal in hospitals under Indo-Italian cooperation has been cleared by Government;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) The project proposal submited by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare regarding bio-medical waste disposal under Indo-Italian cooperation was examined by that Ministry and certain additional information/clarification was sought from the State Govrnment, which has not been received so far.

Development of Forests by NABARD funds in M.P., Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra

†?137. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD has sanctioned funds for development of forests in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated with regard to spending of funds for protection of forests if so, the amount utilised by the States so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) NABARD has not sanctioned any project for development of forests in Madhya Pradesh,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. However, NABARD also provides refinance assistance to Co-operative Banks, RRBS and Commercial Banks for forestry development. This assistance has only been provided to Maharashtra. The amount of refinance disbursement for the year 2001-2002 and 2002-03 is Rs. 185 lakhs and Rs. 71 lakhs respectively.

(c) Ministry of Environment and Forests has formulated Integrated Forest Protection Scheme under which financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for protection and maintenance of forests. The details of assistance released and the utilization during the financial year 2002-03 ae as follows:

Rs. in Lakhs

State	Funds released	Funds utilised 2002-03
2002-2003		
Madhya Pradesh	158.50	107.22
Chhattisgarh	150.00	129.53
Maharashtra	188.92	129.74

Plantation of foreign trees

†2138. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of foreign trees, like eucalyptus have been planted throughout India during the last 15 years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large scale ground water depletion has taken place due to these trees;

(c) whether it is also a fact that even today only thorny, non-shady and non-fruit bearing trees are planted on the road-sides, in parks and near railway lines; and

(d) the action Government are taking to plant fruit bearing trees like eugenea, neem, mangoes etc. after getting the abovesaid trees destroyed?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.